

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1034
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2004
BIO-DIESEL PLANTS
Gehlot Shri Thaawar Chand

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Bio-diesel plants in the country at present;
- (b) the facilities of technical training available in the country regarding Bio-diesel production;
- (c) whether Bio-diesel is more useful than other energy sources; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to encourage its production and use?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR)

(a): As per information available with the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources, there are no regular commercial plants for producing bio-diesel. However, Gujarat Oleo Chem. Ltd., Distt. Bharuch and Lubrizol India Ltd., Bombay are stated to produce bio-diesel on demand basis .

(b): The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi, Indian Institute of Petroleum (IIP), Dehradun, Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) (R&D), Faridabad and Delhi College of Engineering (DCE), Delhi among others are presently doing R&D work on various aspects of bio-diesel production. These academic & research institutions may be able to provide training facilities for bio-diesel.

(c) & (d) : Bio-diesel has been considered as clean alternative fuel which has properties similar to petroleum diesel fuels and can be mixed with diesel fuel in blends upto 20% without any modification in existing engines. The emissions from bio-diesel such as carbon dioxide of sulphur are much less as compared to the petroleum diesel fuels. Moreover, bio-diesel is a renewable, non toxic and biodegradable. In order to encourage production and use of bio-diesel as a blend with diesel in the automotive sector, the Government has set up a National Mission on Bio-diesel for which the Ministry of Rural Development has been designated as the nodal Ministry. The Ministry of Rural Development have informed that a Detailed Project Report (DPR) is under preparation and the Mission is expected to be launched by January, 2005. The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is supporting Research & Development projects on the production and use of Bio-diesel.